

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

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Raleigh, N. C.

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RALEIGH, N. C. JUNE 16 1896.

This paper entered as second-class matter at the Post Office at Raleigh, N. C.

The Progressive Farmer is the Official Organ of the N. C. Farmers' State Alliance

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N. R. P. A.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The silver Democrats are now going to nominate Boise, of Iowa. Then Wall street will say: "Go it, Boise, you are our game."

An exchange has a piece headed: "The Railroad as a Newspaper Maker." We suppose the railroad just makes a pass at the editor and he does the rest.

It is reported that a sanctificationist revivalist has made a Goldsboro citizen so good that he coughed up some money he had stolen years ago. What a pity those good evangelists can't never get a fair whack at delinquent newspaper subscribers!

A London paper says if silver wins in this country American securities will be worth just half what they are now, which, of course, is a colossal lie. London wants our securities and cotton at low prices, and that is why she favors the gold standard.

In response to our challenge for the Democratic press to name the Populists who have "come back into the fold," the Concord Times names two there. Chas. McDonald and J. P. Hornbuckle. Instead of Populism, it must have been something else they had—dyspepsia, probably.

Editor Keetler says in his Concord Vestibule: "A party without the office won't be a party very long, it will 'bust.' It is just like an engine without water." Yes, but a party that throws honest principles to the four winds and gets the offices, will "bust," too. The Democratic party is a shining example.

Here is the banner that hung in the Prohibition convention Hall at Pittsburgh, Pa., a few days ago: "Righteousness Exalteth a Nation." They put up a goldbug ticket and platform, causing a bolt. A better banner would have been: "We are for Gold, Panic, Misery, Destruction and Suppression of the Liquor Traffic."

The other day at Rich Hill, Mo., a city assessor was to be elected. Two Democrats, one Republican and one Populist sought the position. The Populist got mad when they found a combination formed to beat their man, went to work and beat the whole outfit, getting 328 votes. The three combination candidates getting only 306 votes.

The People's party is a good deal like the Irishman's fence. He built it of stone and it was twice as wide as it was high. He explained that if it blew over it would be higher than it ever was. Every time the old parties turn the new one over it appears about twice as high as it was. It is now a condition and not a theory that confronts them.

Miss Helen Gould is not a bit like old man Jay. She is generous and has a level head, too. She promptly sent a check for \$100,000 for the benefit of the cyclone sufferers in St. Louis. Jay Gould wouldn't have sent one dollar of all his millions, had he been living. Moreover, we have no idea that any foreign "jook" will succeed in marrying Miss Helen.

TO DEMOCRATIC AND REPUBLICAN ALLIANCEMEN.

Dr. Cyrus Thompson, President of the State Alliance, was here a few days ago, and while discussing ways and means for the upbuilding of the Alliance, he suggested that a general and cordial invitation be extended to Democrats and Republicans who were good members of the Alliance, but have not affiliated for some time, owing, we suppose, to differences of opinion on political policy; that they be invited to resume their old places and nothing be said about the past.

We like the idea and hope that every true member, not only here, but in every State in the Union will interest himself in this noble undertaking.

A few Democrats and Republicans have held their membership in this State through it all, and though political extremists may have criticized them, we think they have no cause to regret their action.

The principles, fraternal, industrial, educational and political, remain unchanged, but it is an inexcusable error to claim that any Allianceman should be expected to lay down his party convictions. The student who takes a course in a denominational college can join a church of that denomination if he wants to, but it is not compulsory.

In 1892 the new party was started, and thousands of Alliancemen voted the ticket because they had lost faith in the old parties (and all will now admit that they had cause to) and because the new party adopted our principles as its platform. A hot campaign was waged and the money power and its hirelings took advantage of the excitement to alienate as many members of the Alliance as possible, hoping to destroy it.

We believe that every intelligent Democrat and Republican can now see through the deep-laid scheme. We have always contended that if a member of the Alliance was thoroughly convinced that the reforms advocated by the organization were essential, that it is his duty to vote with the new party, but we grant all the right to differ with us as to the importance of any measure, and as to the methods proper to pursue in getting certain reforms. The only Alliancemen who were called traitors were those who advocated a new party, helped to start it, and then acted the part of cowards and traitors. Most of these are known and are not wanted in the organization again. But those who thought their respective political affiliations good enough and acted accordingly, whether they be Democrats or Republicans, have never been regarded as traitors, and they are each and all cordially invited to become active members again.

Brethren, let us hear from you on this matter. How many will write brief letters containing a hearty second to our motion?

Mr. Walter R. Henry, who is next to Sandow in physical strength, couldn't lift Annie Abbott, the magnetic wonder, during one of her exhibitions at Charlotte the other day. Annie can point her finger at a child and the strongest man in the State can't lift the child from the floor. But all this needn't encourage the Democrats. Walter Henry will lift them out of their boots before the November frosts kill vegetation.

IMPORTANCE OF SILVER.

The New York Financial News is a firm advocate of silver remonetization, and owing to its environments, probably attaches too much importance to silver and not enough to other vital issues. A recent issue said:

"Silver is the key to the situation. Its decline or rise in price regulates the price of products—grain, provisions, cotton—in a general way. This has been true in every step of the fluctuating decline begun in 1873. One instance of recent occurrence marks this fact with much emphasis. On the adjournment of the last Congress, after repealing the silver purchase clause of the Sherman law, it was necessary to reverse the panicky tendency of the markets generally, and to show that this legislation had been in the direction of a restoration of values. All that was necessary to affect a rise was to move up the price of silver. Silver is the button to be pushed. The rest follows. Silver was advanced several pence per ounce. A refreshing boom in prices of stocks, bonds, grain, cotton and products and commodities generally followed. The rise held and progressed so long as silver was manipulated upward. When the foreign finger was taken off the silver button down went silver and securities, crops, products and commodities—in a word, trade—relapsed into the old ruts.

"With a silver battle on in earnest for the first time since 1873, there should be and doubtless will be a gradual appreciation in the price of silver, and as silver is the level its rise will carry values generally along with it, so

far as products and commodities go. As to securities, in spite of many years of false teaching, the investing class would quickly discount the fact that securities must advance with a renewal and enlargement of trade.

"Falling prices for every twenty years have locked up money by destroying confidence in our money, but falling prices mean inevitable loss, and, of course, destroy confidence. With a general rise in prices, which would ensue from the free coinage of silver, confidence in business would come back. Nothing but a rise in prices can bring it back. The moment a general rise set in on a scale to indicate it has come to stay money will come out of all the hiding places created during a quarter of a century, and will flow in from other countries to get into business based on rising prices.

"Rising prices in money lock up the money and destroy confidence in business. Rising prices in products and commodities unlock money and breed confidence in business and stimulate new enterprises. When rising prices begin we can quit 'reorganizing' and go constructing."

Some say that lightning never strikes twice in the same place. Some wag has explained that by saying that after striking once there is no place left to strike. However, Capt. John Horn, of Nash county, says that a large pine tree, now dead, has been struck twice by lightning every summer since 1836. If that be a fact, the scientist, philosopher, or politician who started the yarn about lightning never striking but once in the same place, should rise and explain.

GENIUS SHOULD BE REWARDED.

A bank at Edinburg, Ind., closed its doors last Thursday. Some genius connected with it certainly should not be out of a job long. Dunn or Bradstreet's commercial agencies ought to employ him at once. He can turn their "business situation" man down before breakfast any morning in the year. This fellow stated that the failure of the bank was due to a "lack of deposits." Great guns! what commercial agency stuff that man is made of. If we had the management of a commercial agency and wanted to serve the money power, as such institutions generally do, we would give that fellow his own price. Dunn and Bradstreet's men are regular "daisies." They have managed to explain why business doesn't get better, and why so many failures are occurring, to the entire satisfaction of the "business men." That is why the financial question cuts so little ice among "business men." With lamb like faith and simplicity they have allowed those fellows to fool them week after week with such stuff as this: "Collections and business continue slow and are not likely to exhibit marked changes until the cool weather warms up," or, "the hot weather has retarded trading activities and business seems to be in a waiting attitude," or a half dozen other stereotyped sentences.

But the Indiana man goes right to the root of the thing and tells the whole truth in such an innocent way that you feel refreshed at once. Mark Twain once knew a man who was such an accomplished liar that it was really a pleasure to hear him lie. This fellow can tell a painful truth in such a manner that almost any bank or business concern would rather fail and have him explain why than to succeed in business.

After we get free coinage and some other financial reforms, you will pick up a paper and see items like this: "The First National Bank of Perkinsburg failed yesterday. Liabilities only \$2,25; assets \$500,000. Failure due to a rush of depositors who insisted on making a storage warehouse of the bank for their spare change. The bank decided to quit business rather than be burdened with so much cash." We have to use a good many words to express it, but this Indiana man will be equal to the task. He will simply say: "Lack of room to accommodate depositors."

But there is a serious side to the Indiana bank failure. The folks around there ought to be prosecuted for not having money to deposit. No matter if the government has quit making money; that is no excuse.

A FORWARD SEASON.

Mr. James H. Pate, of Gibson's Station, Richmond county, sends us the first cotton bloom we have seen. It opened on the 9th. This is unusually early for blooms in this State, June 20th being about the earliest heretofore. But the Laurinburg Exchange reported one two weeks ago, it having opened about the 1st, which beats all records. Some years ago a cotton bloom by the first of July was considered a rare thing. The wheat crop has been harvested two or three weeks earlier than usual, and is reported very light. Crops of all kinds are further advanced than the oldest inhabitants ever saw them at this time of year.

PUT LIFE IN YOUR ALLIANCE.

Alliancemen have never realized and appreciated the urgent need for more life and interest in their meetings; or realizing it have neglected to meet its demands. This, more than anything else, has been the cause of the disbandment of nineteen out of every twenty Alliances which have forfeited their charters. They have devoted their meetings entirely too much to politics, and while doing their full duty in this regard, have neglected the social side of their order—the arm-touch between their members, says the Cotton Plant.

We need a revival along these lines. Bring the young people into the order, and arrange for more picnics and gatherings than we have had in the past. Set aside Saturday evening for the discussion of farming matters, and other things of interest to you. Meet and discuss the road working in your township, and have your Commissioner give his plans to you and make a showing of his disbursement of township funds. Advise with him, and make your complaints as a body; and if he is the man he should be he will thank you for it. Discuss your schools and make your recommendations for their management. Agitate local matters, and make legislative candidates promise to give you more "local self government" than you have had—in other words make your Alliance a referendum for the discussion and settlement of local questions.

We do not mean to advise participation in local quarrels, or to make a faction of your members—but rather to settle disputes, and to give a voice to the wishes of your people. There has not been, in our State and county government, enough voice given to the people in many questions vitally affecting their welfare—such as roads and schools—but by the right effort you can secure this voice through your Sub Alliance.

NATIONAL BRIGANDS DISBAND.

The National Aggregation of financial Ases and Legalized Banditti disbanded on last Thursday unwept, unhonored, and, we are sorry to say, unhung.

The present Congress was no better than the one that preceded it though the complexion was changed, giving a large Republican majority in the lower House. It did no worse than the Democratic Congress, though, it might have done as bad or worse had it not been for the balance of power held by the Populist Senators in the Senate. This effectually blocked all bad legislation, and probably more would have been attempted had it not been for that barrier. It is greatly to the credit of the Populists that, so far as anyone can see, none of them sold out, though they had unlimited opportunities.

But this Congress could have passed all necessary legislation. The Populists introduced many good bills. All were defeated. Everything went to prove that the money power has almost complete control of both old parties and made the same sly selections for Congressional candidates that they made in former campaigns, and this makes it plainer than ever that nothing but an uprising of the people and their entire strength thrown into a new party, with honest candidates, will ever overthrow the money power. It is true that there is always a few good men in each party in Congress. The money power wants them there to keep up appearances. But it is equally true that so long as the money power aids in selecting candidates they will always select men who can be bought or driven.

WANTS TO BE FOOLED AGAIN.

The Richmond Evening Star is certainly in a precarious condition. It is rushing around to get its pockets picked, or wants to buy a gold brick, or box of sawdust, and we guess it will not have to hunt much longer. On the 11th it said:

"The last issue of THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER expresses surprise to find THE Richmond Star and the Denver News joining with the Democratic party in an effort to secure relief to the people from the effects of the single gold standard. We must confess that we are as greatly surprised that THE FARMER or any other paper honestly desiring to see the people lifted from the desponding condition of loss and idleness is not willing to accept the earliest and most certain agency to accomplish that relief."

Ten follows a long song about what the Democratic party has always been for, what it has done and tried to do. We know what it has claimed; we know it generally voted for free coinage when it was certain that the Republicans had a majority in one or both Houses of Congress. We know that it had the President and a majority in both Houses of Congress from March 4th, 1893, to December 1st, 1895, two years and a half. We know that in less than six months after it got that power, that majority, it wiped the last

vestige of a silver law off the statute books and positively refused to enact another law of any kind, at any rate. We know that silver bills were introduced day after day in every imaginable form, ranging in ratio from 15 to 1 to 21 to 1, and every one of them was promptly defeated. We know that the worst panic ever known began in three months after it got that majority and was in progress at the very time the silver law was being destroyed and was at its height when the various bills for its restoration were being defeated by a Democratic President, a Democratic Senate and a Democratic House, and the panic is still going on yet. We know that during all that time nine tenths of the Democratic voters and the Democratic papers were backing up and defending that President, Senate and House.

We also know that in order to fool the people again and try to regain power to get soft places and gorge their pockets with unholy gain, at the expense of the masses of the country the Democratic leaders, with a few exceptions, have changed tactics and are now advocating the very measures that they so bitterly denounced only a few weeks ago. All this we know and much more. We know that the man who will be caught in such a trap is not in earnest or else he lacks that important element known as common sense. We are not willing to believe that the Richmond Star is dishonest, nor that it is edited by fools, hence we will expect it to discover where it is at before it is too late.

SILVER GOING UP.

The goldbug prevaricators will have to get a new value on the silver dollar, for the price of silver is advancing. Hugh McDonald, the California millionaire and gold mine operator, has been in Boston for some days and has just bought 100,000 ounces of silver at 72 cents per ounce. He says it is simply a business transaction and he will hold it until next year and then go to the mint and get it coined. That looks like Mr. McDonald is very hopeful about the prospect of an honest President and Congress. He says half the people in the State of Massachusetts are for free coinage, notwithstanding the alleged goldbug strength there. He also says that he has no interest in silver mining, but is not opposed to silver remonetization, for it is needed, and that he thinks silver will go to 80 cents per ounce before the year is out.

AGRICULTURAL LYING.

The new papers, especially the single standard sheets, often "point with pride" to the record some farmer has made, "who bids defiance to hard times," and, also, the man "who pays but little attention to politics." These papers tell how Mr. John Smith buys and pays for a farm in a few years, builds fine houses and barns and lends money right and left. They also tell how Henry Jones "didn't attend Alliance and Grange meetings" and raised immense crops on so many acres of land, and dozens of other things.

Much of this comes about through a chronic habit some newspapers have of lying, for there are newspaper liars as well as other liars. Then, too, Mr. Smith and Mr. Jones are the liars. They may be doing pretty well, get a large yield per acre, or something of the kind, and they straightway hie away to a newspaper office. The editor listens to their tale with astonishment depicted on his face. They grow eloquent and tell a cargo of lies about how much they have raised, how quickly they paid a large debt, (which it often happens is not paid) or about how much money they have made and have loaned out.

The Wall street newspapers use this claptrap to argue in favor of the single standard or to knock the spots out of the reform movement.

Of course some farmers succeed better than others, a few have money to lend, a few raise extraordinary crops, but fellow citizens, much of it is exaggeration. A fisherman has been known to magnify a "bite" into a string of fine fish.

A few men will make a brilliant success in any line of business, under any and all circumstances. Nobody can account for it, but it is true.

What we want to see is the return of prosperous times we enjoyed from 1866 to 1885. Then every farmer, every business man, had a chance. If he didn't do fairly well it was his own fault. Laws are made mainly for the weak. Let's have financial laws that will enable the weak to cope with the strong, make money easier and take off the premium which is now such an incentive to human greed.

Connecticut Populists met at Hartford May 22d, elected delegates to the St. Louis convention and declared for free silver and gold at the present ratio. It seems a piece of this "busted up" pop party has sprung up in every State in the Union.—Exchange.

CREAM OF THE PRESS.

Hard Hits, Bold Sayings and Patriotic Paragraphs From Reform Papers.

When the people stop electing lawyers and bankers to legislate for them they may expect some relief from their present distressed condition.—Gainesville Signal.

"The undeniable revival of silverism" is a phrase which replaces the time worn "silver is dead in the columns of the gilded press.—Brockton Diamond.

A good question for every voter to ask himself before voting this fall, viz: "Will I vote simply for party or for the good of my country?"—Independent Milton, W. Va.

To hear a fellow boasting of election frauds, if the law was enforced he would be wearing stripes, may suit a silver Democrat, but it looks ugly to other people.—Tyler, Tex., News.

The contest between the two old parties is like a prize fight. It costs the public the same to see the slugging match—no matter which wins.—People's Party Advocate, Washington, D. C.

The dying wail of the free silver Democrats will be heard on the 8th of July after the National convention endorses the sound money views of boss Grover.—Leader, Weatherford, Tex.

McKinley may not be a goldbug nor a silverbug, nor straddlebug, but the power behind the throne is decidedly goldbug. Which will be if he should be elected President?—Referendum, Shoals, Ind.

A poor editor wants the motto on the silver dollar, "In God we Trust," changed to "God be with you 'till we meet again," but it is hardly worth while in these days of scarcity.—Eagle, Beattie, Kans.

With all due respect to the fat man who waved the bloody shirt at England and under cover of it issued bonds, we would like to know what has become of the Venezuelan commission.—Silver Knight.

Every bank, every railroad corporation, every trust, every monopoly of every kind are opposed to the People's party and favor one or the other of the two old parties. Voter, can you tell us why?—Reform Journal, Conway, Ark.

Every declaration of the old parties favoring the free and unlimited coinage of silver is only a bait thrown out to catch votes. If they had intended to be friends of silver, why did they kill it in the first place?—Miner, Gold Hill, Oreg.

It should not be forgotten that the best times this country ever saw were when there was not a dollar of metal money in circulation. The nation prospered as never before or since with no money except greenbacks and fractional currency, and bank notes redeemable in greenbacks.—Missouri World.

The bread strewn upon the waters by the Alliance is returning to us in the shape of a sweeping silver tidal wave—which promises to again place the people in the saddle. Not an effort for the advancement of the order has ever been wasted—nor has a single one of us failed to receive a bountiful return for everything we have done for it.—Cotton Plant.

With over three million idle men, business demoralized, property values destroyed, bankruptcy and ruin on every hand, pauperism, insanity, prostitution and crime rapidly on the increase, the standard of manhood and womanhood retrograding—all this, and more that is evil, under the present social system, for which both old political parties are equally responsible and to which each stand committed, how can any patriotic citizen longer remain in their ranks?—Tulare County News.

PRIZES.

The North Carolina State Dairyman's Association offers three prizes for a two day's test of dairy cows at the next State Fair.

The prizes are \$25 to the first; \$15 to the second; \$10 to the third. Isn't this worth trying for? Full details as to the test can be found in the First Annual Report of this Association recently issued.

Membership costs \$1, and the dues are \$1 per year. The Report is furnished free to members.

If you have a good cow why not try for the prize? 25 to 1; 15 to 1, or 10 to 1 that the Report, if well read and digested, will yield better returns than the prizes offered at the fair amount to the winners. But who will be the winner of the 1st, 2nd or 3rd prize? Will he be a member or non member of the Association?

Address E. B. C. Hambley, Secretary-Treasurer, enclosing \$1 for membership and mention this paper; also state whether you intend to enter the competition for the prize.